

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

for the international media and travel writers and setting up of new tourist offices in established and potential markets.

Bheraghat tourist spot, Jabalpur

†1195. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the category in which the world famous Bheraghat tourist spot of Jabalpur has been placed;
- (b) whether there is any scheme to develop it as an international tourist spot;
- (c) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Bheraghat in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh is an attractive scenic spot.

(b) Promotion of tourism is a continuous process. The Government is promoting foreign as well as domestic tourism in the country including Madhya Pradesh through its 18 overseas offices by advertising in print & electronic media, participation in travel fairs, inviting media, and Travel Agents on familiarization trips, extensive use of Information Technology in tourism promotion etc. Domestic tourism is encouraged through 21 field offices within India. However, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has not evolved any guidelines for categorisation of places of tourist importance/attraction within the State.

(c) The Eleventh Finance Commission has recommended grants amounting to Rs. 15.00 crores for development of tourism related infrastructure in and around Bheraghat. Finance Ministry has released Rs. 3.02 crores for implementing the partial Action Plan submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for this scheme.

^tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Central Department of Tourism has also prioritised a project for "Expansion of Tourist Complex Marble rocks at Bheraghat, Jabalpur" for Rs. 11.50 lakhs during 2001-2002. During the year 1999-2000, a project for development of Water Sports facilities at Bargi Dam, Jabalpur for Rs. 23.36 lakhs was also sanctioned.

(d) Does not arise.

Expenditure incurred by ITDC on its establishments in Rajasthan

1196. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount spent by ITDC on its establishments in Rajasthan during the last three years, location-wise;
- (b) what is the profit earned therefrom during this period in comparison with the investments made;
- (c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for development and promotion of tourism industry in Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The details of capital investments made by ITDC on its units in the State of Rajasthan during the last 3 years are given below:—

(Rupees in lakhs)

| Name of the Unit | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur | 34.09 | 82.15 | 60.66 |
| Hotel Jaipur Ashok Jaipur | 17.69 | 47.79 | 5.88 |
| Bharatpur Forest Lodge | 40.84 | 8.49 | 1.40 |

(b) The performance of hotels is not directly related to the investments made but depends upon many other factors like flow of tourist traffic, competition etc. Due to depressed tourism scenario